

COLUMBUS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office at 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, NC at 8:00 A.M., May 4, 1998, for the regularly scheduled Board Meeting, it being the first Monday.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

David L. Dutton, Jr., Chairman

A. Dial Gray, III, Vice Chairman

Spruell Randolph Britt

Sammie Jacobs

Lynwood Norris

C.W. Williams

C.E. Wilson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring
County Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman David L. Dutton, Jr. called the meeting to order and Commissioner Spruell R. Britt gave the invocation.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the April 20, 1998, Board Meeting, as recorded.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items.

Tax Refunds:

Request a refund in the name of North American Mortgage Co., 231 E. Ave., Suite 200, Albion, N.Y. 14411-1678. Taxes paid on the account of Michael & Jill Couch. Should have paid on Lester Valentine account. Amount \$102.84, Value \$13,100, Year 1997, Account #03-04125.

Request a refund in the name of Donald Richard Cribb, 299 Carl Stephens Rd., Clarendon N.C. 28432. Paid user fee on vacant property. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #09-05503.

Tax Releases:

Release the value of property in the name of Denise Fogle McAllister. Failed to receive senior citizens exemption. Amount \$124.21, Value \$6,860, Year 1996, Account #09-17511.

Release the property value in the name of Denise Fogle McAllister. Failed to receive senior citizens exemption. Amount \$150.53, Value \$6,610, Year 1997, Account #09-17511.

Release the property value for the City of Bolton, in the name of George McDuffie (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of Isaac Williams. Amount \$204.05, Value \$37,100, Year 1997, Account #04-10820.

Release the user fee in the name of Paul Levon Bullard. Mobile home used for storage. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #10-01760.

Release the user fee in the name of William M. Coyle. Billed with two mobile homes, only one on property. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #15-10460.

Release the user fee in the name of Bobby Faulk (Heirs) House vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #07-04020.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Lee Freeman. Home vacant. Amount \$30.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1993, Account #13-13800.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Lee Freeman. Home vacant. Amount \$30.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1994, Account #13-13800.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Lee Freeman. Home vacant.
Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1995, Account #13-13800.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Lee Freeman. Home vacant.
Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1996, Account #13-13800.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Lee Freeman. Home vacant.
Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #13-13800.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Lee Freeman. Home vacant.
Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #13-13800.

Release the user fee in the name of Sabrina & Lois Gaskins. Property vacant.
Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #06-13521.

Release the user fee in the name of Doris Griffin. Property is vacant. Amount
\$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #12-10325.

Release the user fee in the name of Horace E. Reaves. House is vacant.
Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #07-13700.

Release the user fee in the name of James Edward Spivey. House is vacant.
Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1995, Account #16-13587.

Release the user fee in the name of James Edward Spivey. Home vacant.
Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1996, Account #16-13587.

Release the user fee in the name of James Edward Spivey. House is vacant.
Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #16-13587.

Release the property value in the name of Mary Elizabeth Britt. Mobile home
sold in April, 1995. Amount \$168.30, Value \$11,570, Year 1996, Account #12-02828.

Release the property value in the name of Mary Elizabeth Britt. Mobile home
sold in April, 1995. Amount \$186.54, Value \$11,320, Year 1997, Account #12-02828.

Release a portion of the property value in the name of Dottie B. Brown
(Trustee). Value of house keyed in incorrectly. Amount \$564.74, Value \$74,800, Year 1997,
Account #04-01706.

Release the value of property in the name of Ronnie Canady. Mobile home
sold in 1990. Amount \$9.36, Value \$1,000, Year 1996, Account #03-02536.

Release the property value in the name of Ronnie Canady. Mobile home sold in 1990. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #03-02536.

Release a portion of the property value in the name of Daniel Hartford & Carol H. Cox. Billed with double wide mobile home but they own a single wide. Amount \$337.93, Value \$42,200, Year 1997, Account #03-04157.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Wiley Lee & Mildred Davis. Home repossessed prior to 1-1-96. Amount \$149.58, Value \$9,570, Year 1996, Account #13-10100.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Wiley Lee & Mildred Davis. Home repossessed prior to 1-1-96. Amount \$171.25, Value \$9,320, Year 1997, Account #13-10100.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Ricky Wayne Fowler. Home sold several years ago. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #06-10233.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Tonya Fowler. Home repossessed in 1996. Amount \$220.18, Value \$15,720, Year 1997, Account #09-09181.

Release the value of property in the name of Godwin Auto Sales. Business closed down in April 1995. Amount \$2.18, Value \$247.00, Year 1996, Account #01-32362.

Release the property value in the name of Godwin Auto Sales. Business closed in April 1995. Amount \$1.58, Value \$201.00, Year 1997, Account #01-32362.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Paul U. & Ruth Gore. Mobile home junked several years ago. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1000, Year 1997, Account #06-15040.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Clarence Glendell Graham. Home double listed in the name of Ethel Freeman Graham. Amount \$105.18, Value \$5,380, Year 1995, Account #04-06060.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Clarence Glendell Graham. Home double listed in the name of Ethel Freeman Graham. Amount \$101.22, Value \$4,890, Year 1996, Account #04-06060.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Clarence Glendell Graham. Home double listed in the name of Ethel Freeman Graham. Amount \$140.61, Value \$4,890, Year 1997, Account #04-06060.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood, (1988-1997). Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$17.16, Value \$1,751, Year 1988, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$12.75, Value \$1,700, Year 1989, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$13.09, Value \$1,700, Year 1990, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$13.26, Value \$1,700, Year 1991, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$13.26, Value \$1,700, Year 1992, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$13.77, Value \$1,700, Year 1993, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$14.45, Value \$1,700, Year 1994, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$14.79, value \$1,700, Year 1995, Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$14.79, Value \$1,700, Year 1996,

Account #01-42845.

Release the property value in the name of Shannon Rockford Hood. Property double listed in the name of Honeycutt Produce. Amount \$1.57, Value \$200, Year 1997, Account #01-42845.

Release a portion of the property value in the name of Isaac Christian & Dorothy P. Jordan. Property double listed in the name of Jeannie Mae & Mathew Robinson. Amount \$349.15, Value \$33,000, Year 1997, Account #04-09485.

Release the property value in the name of Burris Junior Kelly. Logging equipment repossessed in 1995. Amount \$1,515.47, Value \$163,386, Year 1996, Account #15-22017.

Release the property value in the name of Burris Junior Kelley. Logging equipment repossessed in 1995. Amount \$1,251.80, Value \$139,632, Year 1997, Account #15-22017.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Joyce Long. Home double listed in the name of Joyce Long Andrews. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #03-14203.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Mark & Stephana Long. Home sold to Charlie Roberts in 1996. Amount \$135.78, Value \$4,680, Year 1997, Account #13-14446.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Ledesma Mavis. Home moved to South Carolina in 1995. Amount \$9.07, Value \$1,079, Year 1996, Account #04-11252.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Ledesma Mavis. Home moved to South Carolina in 1995. Amount \$108.98, Value \$1,080, Year 1997, Account #04-11252.

Release the property value in the name of Lillian Moore (Heirs) for the years 1991, 92, 93, 94, 95 and 97. Property double listed to Waccamaw Lumber Company. Amount \$17.57, Value \$2,546, Year 1991, Account #14-10900.

Release the property value in the name of Lillian Moore (Heirs). Property

double listed in the name of Waccamaw Lumber Company. Amount \$31.74, Value \$4,600, Year 1992, Account #14-10900.

Release the property value in the name of Lillian Moore (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of Waccamaw Lumber Company. Amount \$33.12, Value \$4,600, Year 1993, Account #14-10900.

Release the property value in the name of Lillian Moore (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of Waccamaw Lumber Company. Amount \$34.96, Value \$4,600, Year 1994, Account #14-10900.

Release the property value in the name of Lillian Moore (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of Waccamaw Lumber Company. Amount \$38.64, Value \$6,100, Year 1995, Account #14-10900.

Release the property value in the name of Lillian Moore (Heirs) Property double listed in the name of Waccamaw Lumber Company. Amount \$46.06, Value \$6,100, Year 1997, Account #14-10900.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Larry Edward Norris. Traded single wide for double wide and it is listed. Amount \$159.63, Value \$7,800, Year 1997, Account #01-66359.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Jamie Price. Home burned in 1996. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #10-13851.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Tammy Sellers. Purchased building permit but never bought mobile home. Amount \$293.59, Value \$23,310, Year 1997, Account #09-25921.

Release value of a home in the name of Sarah Jones Shipman. Billed with two homes, only owns one. Amount \$224.03, Value \$15,800, Year 1997, Account #01-82603.

Release value of a mobile home in the name of Jimmy Walters. Home double listed in the name of Deborah Hinson. Amount \$9.36, Value \$1,000, Year 1996, Account #13-41558.

Release value of a mobile home in the name of Curtis D. & Teresa P. Watts. Home repossessed in 1989. Amount \$108.42, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #02-03003.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Leacie A. Williams. Home repossessed prior to 1-1-97. Amount \$261.01, Value \$21,060, Year 1997, Account #12-29344.

Budget Amendments:

Appropriate 10-399-0000 Fund Balance \$17,783.00

Expend as follows:

Decrease 10-690-9200 Reserve for Capital Projects (\$17,039.00)

Increase 10-900-6000 Transfer to Capital Projects \$ 34,822.00

Accept 10-348-0701 State Funds - Rural OB Care \$ 30,000.00

Expend 10-592-4500 Rural OB Care \$ 30,000.00

**PUBLIC HEARING - SCHEDULED FOR WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
INSTALLMENT PURCHASE CONTRACT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Gray and passed unanimously to schedule a Public Hearing for May 18, 1998 at 7:30 P.M. to receive public comment on the Installment Purchase Contract for Whiteville City Schools to upgrade the power service in three (3) schools in the amount of \$400,000.00.

**PUBLIC HEARING - ACME-DELCO - RIEGELWOOD FIRE & RESCUE TAX
DISTRICT TABLED**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to table scheduling the Public Hearing for the Acme-Delco - Riegelwood Fire & Rescue Tax District until the Paramedic-type care is considered for Columbus County in its entirety.

**APPOINTMENT CORRECTIONS - LOWER CAPE FEAR WATER & SEWER
AUTHORITY**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to correct the designated term of office to the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors for Dempsey B. Herring, Administrator, and Lynwood Norris, Commissioner, as follows.

Dempsey B. Herring - Term beginning January 2, 1997 and ending January 2, 2000; and

Lynwood Norris - Term beginning January 2, 1997 and ending January 2, 2000.

APPOINTMENT - BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to reappoint Commissioner C.W. Williams to serve on the Social Services Board of Directors for a three (3) year term, with term beginning July 1, 1998 and ending June 30, 2001.

AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS - REQUEST FOR PARAMEDIC-TYPE CARE TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT

Dr. William Elsaesser, Emergency Room Physician at Columbus County Hospital and Medical Director for County Rescue Squads, and Butch Meares, representing the County Rescue Squads, addressed the Board stating the County Rescue Squads have endorsed a plan to support pre-hospital emergency medical providers (rescue squads). Effective August 1, 1998, the North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services will rescind the EMT-Advanced Intermediate level of care which is the level that Columbus County Rescue Squads provide. The following recommendations are being presented by the Rescue Squads for the Board's consideration.

1. Maintain paid daytime personnel in each of the county's rescue squads to ensure timely response of basic life support and limited advanced life support and maintain all existing taxpayers' support for these rescue squads so they will be able to maintain the equipment and training necessary to continue the tradition of volunteer service.
2. Establish a paramedic level Quick Response Volunteer (QRV) system for the County, with four (4) QRV's strategically located throughout the County in order to provide timely, paramedic level care for appropriate patients. Rescue squads in the east, west, and southern areas of Columbus County will offer recommendations as to the location of QRV's there, with the fourth QRV to be located in the Whiteville area. The County could establish such a service of its own, or contract with a private EMS provider for this service.
3. Establish a system to help pay for this advanced care. Three (3) possible ways to generate revenue through this service is as follows:
 - a. Billing;
 - b. Taxes; or
 - c. Household fees.

Priscilla Long, Nakina Fire & Rescue Chief, reported that Nakina and Tabor

City Rescue Squads are against billing because they fear poor, elderly patients may be afraid to call because they can't afford the service.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to take the request from the Columbus County Rescue Squads under advisement.

AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS - MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED WITH COLUMBUS COUNTY HOSPITAL FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to direct Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, to schedule a special meeting with the Columbus County Hospital Board of Directors and request their involvement with the paid paramedics plan for Columbus County.

FINANCE - CAPITAL PROJECTS DISPOSITION

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to approve the disposition of the following capital projects:

- a. Completion of the Columbus County Water District I Construction Project;
- b. Transfer the balance of \$1,018.45 from the Natural Gas Line Project that is complete to the Farm Services Building Project;
- c. Transfer the balance of \$82,738.25 from the Haworth Project that cannot be utilized due to employee reduction at Haworth to the Conflandey Project; and
- d. Transfer the balance of \$32,671.44 from the Georgia Pacific Project, that is complete, to the Conflandey Project.

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BUILDING

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve an amendment to the Agricultural Services Building Capital Project Ordinance as follows:

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BUILDING

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

ORIGINAL ADOPTION: June 16, 1997

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, that pursuant to Section 159-13.2 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Capital Project Ordinance Amendment is **HEREBY ADOPTED**:

SECTION 1. The Project authorized is the Columbus County Agricultural Services Building.

SECTION 2. The project director is hereby directed to proceed with the construction of the project within the terms of the loan agreement executed with United Carolina Bank.

SECTION 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the County to complete the project:

64-335-0000 Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 1,019.00
64-397-1000 Contribution General Fund	<u>\$34,822.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$35,841.00

SECTION 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Increase 64-610-0400 Professional Services	\$ 16,919.00
Decrease 64-610-5700 Miscellaneous Expense	(\$73,200.00)
Increase 64-610-7500 Construction	<u>\$ 92,122.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 35,841.00

SECTION 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of this project. She shall also keep the Governing Body informed at each regular meeting of any unusual occurrences.

SECTION 6. Copies of the Capital Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for directions in carrying out the project.

ADOPTED this 4th day of May 1998.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ David L. Dutton, Jr. Chairman

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE - CONFLANDEY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner

Britt and passed unanimously to approve a Capital Project Ordinance for the Conflandey Industrial Development Project as follows.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
WATER AND SEWER EXTENSIONS
FOR CONFLANDEY FACILITY**

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, that pursuant to Section 159-13.2 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Capital Project Ordinance is HEREBY ADOPTED:

SECTION 1. The project authorized is the N.C. Department of Commerce Industrial Development Funds (Conflandey Project) for Water and Sewer extensions.

SECTION 2. The project director is hereby directed to proceed with the construction of the project within the terms of the N. C. Department of Commerce Grant Agreement Industrial Development Fund grant assistance under G.S. 143B-437A.

SECTION 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the County to complete the project:

29-348-9800	N.C. Department of Commerce Industrial Development Funds	\$200,000.00
29-397-0000	County Appropriation (1998-99 Budget Appropriation)	10,491.00
29-397-1000	Transfers from Capital Project	115,409.00
TOTAL REVENUE		\$325,900.00

SECTION 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

29-495-7300	Water and Sewer Improvements	\$325,900.00
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SECTION 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of the project. She shall also keep the Governing Body informed at each regular meeting of any unusual occurrence.

SECTION 6. Copies of the Capital Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out the project.

ADOPTED this 4th day of May 1998.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

/s/ David L. Dutton, Jr., Chairman

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk to the Board

SOCIAL SERVICES - CONTINUE CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM AS A SOCIAL SERVICES FUNCTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve to continue the operation of the Child Support Program as a function of the Department of Social Services and not to privatize the Child Support Program.

FORESTRY SERVICE - PRESENTATION "DON'T GET BURNED AGAIN BY FRAN"

Walter Lewis, Columbus County Forest Ranger, presented the Board with a video on "Don't Get Burned Again By Fran."

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to enter into closed session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5).


RESUME REGULAR SESSION

At 9:55 A.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to adjourn closed session and resume regular session.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Immediately, thereafter, a motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting.


Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

APPROVED:


David L. Dutton, Jr., Chairman